

# Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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Number 17

## WITHIN THE WEEK

Rep SABATH, of Ill, was speaking under stress of great emotion when he accused his associates Wednesday eve of "murdering" OPA. It is too early to hold a post mortem. The Senate resuscitation squad is yet to be heard from. But CHESTER BOWLES has ample reason to be "deeply, deeply worried."

The House merely approved in action the intentions which individual mbrs have been expressing rather freely for wks. Lawmakers do not go to such extremes in an election yr unless they are pretty certain that the course is a popular one. The OPA has become a sort of scape-goat. The people are now eager to send it forth into the wilderness, bearing their woes. Housewives blame OPA for the continued scarcity of many commodities, and recently, for the growing evils of black mkt. Business men assert that arbitrary and unrealistic price controls have destroyed the creative incentive; dried the wells of normal mass production.

The Senate, traditionally the more temperate body (only a third of its mbrs face electorate this yr), may retrieve some controls the House has thrown overboard. But it's perfectly obvious that OPA is petering out. Indeed this has been clearly indicated by actions of that body itself for past few wks. There has been a

wholesale lifting of price controls; a belated realization that mathematics can't be manipulated.

**U S FOOD:** The time has come to talk bountifully about our food situation. It is not at all good. People should know this; should know further that world pressure for food is not transient condition. It will continue, certainly, for yr and a half. It will accelerate as transportation to remote areas permits us to reach greater number of starving peoples.

Someone, somewhere blundered tragically in not bldg substantial reserves to meet coming conditions. It is clear now that farms should never have been stripped of labor by draft. We should have produced and stored more and more staples. Only a miraculous succession of good crop yrs saved our skins. To assume an indefinite continuation of that condition is tempting Providence. A drought thruout Mid West this yr would result in a world disaster that, in comparison, would dwarf the casualties of war.

As to immediate situation: Unrealistic pricing of grain has led farmers to feed out more livestock than is warranted by grain supplies. Obvious course: Adjust prices so that grain again flows normally for human consumption. But that step is so simple it probably won't be taken.

FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED



### SHIFTING SANDS

Now that so-called "PETRILLO" bill has become law, it's certain that American Federation of Musicians will violate act at 1st opportunity, to carry test case to Supreme Court. There's fairly strong opinion they will win. . . PETRILLO this wk staggered movie producers with demands including \$200 minimum wkly wage, 10-hr working day. . . The indications now are that the Conference of Alcoholic Beverage Industries and the Allied Liquor Industries, Inc will both be liquidated to make room for new ass'n uniting all alcoholic beverage interests. Plan is to spend upwards of \$2 million a yr in public relations. Industry seeks exec sec'y at salary up to \$50,000. . . For 1st time in history, book business has been surveyed. Findings will be published this wk by Book Mfrs Inst, under title, *People And Books*. . . Maybe you've been wondering about that C-A-I-C badge, with its check and double check. Ask a staunch Republican to interpret it for you!



**Quote**

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

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"People are very mouldy, really." —MARGARET LONG, lab'y ass't, American Univ, Washington, D C, explaining "awful" appearance of slab of agar agar in germ incubator 24 hrs after being kissed by girl. (But American Univ isn't trying to discourage kissing. "We just show them the facts and let them draw their own conclusions.") 1-Q

"If we could isolate Washington for 60 days, the U S would get going." —An unnamed Senator, quoted in *Nation's Business*. 2-Q

"It's too bad the U S doesn't have bull-fighting. Then we could send you some of our big-league torreadors in exchange for some of your guys who make a kill with bases loaded." —A Mexican official commenting on "all this fuss" over American ball-players going "over the border" to Mexican league. 3-Q

"I want to see—and I think we shall see it—an agreement or declaration that whatever happens we will not use armies to settle our disputes." —ERNEST BEVIN, British Foreign Sec'y. 4-Q

"I know nothing about farming, but I evidently am going to learn." —ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, announcing that Hyde Park will this yr raise feed for its live stock. 5-Q

"When full employment is achieved, when fear of insecurity is gone, all the races which make up this great country can dwell together in peace." —HENRY WALLACE, Sec'y of Commerce, in Founder's Day speech, Tuskegee Institute. 6-Q

"The manner in which Hitler treated the heads of conquered nations was model and, I might say, knightly and has no precedent in history." —JOACHIM von RIBBENTROP, former Foreign Minister of the Nazi regime. 7-Q

"There are 500 million hungry folk in the world. There is food enough for only 3% of them. In other words, some 125 million are condemned." —DEWITT MACKENZIE, A P foreign affairs analyst. 8-Q

"I'm all for it, because I think it would elevate the social level of Jap-



anese girls." —NAOMI NISHIMURA, dir peace dep't, Tokyo police, sanctioning new 8th Army rule against GI's making love to Japanese girls in public. 9-Q

"Even if I don't get a cent out of him, just tickling him off will do me good." —Mrs BRIDGET WATERS, British war bride, arriving U S to fight American husband's divorce action. "There's a lot of brides over there getting divorce papers in the mail these days from over here, and they're not all of them going to take it sitting down." 10-Q

"Since uranium is only one-quarter-millionth the volume of its equivalent in coal, transporting it (to Arctic and Antarctic regions) would be quite practicable." —Dr J C STEARNS, Washington Univ scientist, predicting construction of atomic-energy-heated air fields, complete cities, at North and South Poles. 11-Q

"They're worse than Brooklyn." —MICKEY OWEN, former Dodger catcher, describing Mexican baseball fans. (OWEN is under 5-yr contract to play Mexican circuit.) 12-Q

"In my life I've done 47 different kinds of work, and believe me this is the easiest." —EDDIE ALBERT, screen actor, disagreeing with colleagues most of whom regard their work as rather arduous. "But, it's the kind I really like to do—easy work with big pay." 13-Q

"This most technological of all man's struggles put just as much emphasis on the ground soldier as did those wars waged with the short sword and the musket." —Gen'l JACOB L DEVERS, chief of army ground forces, in war dep't report

observing wars still can't be won without the ground soldier. 14-Q

"Dad always told me I would be sorry I didn't practice." —WILL ROGERS, Jr, practicing his roping in preparation for role of famous dad in movie of father's life. 15-Q

"We will not touch food until either the Jews are brought here or we all die." —GOLDIE MEYERSON, Milwaukee-born leader Jerusalem hunger strike, taking oath not to touch food until 1,014 European Jews stranded in La Spezia, Italy are brought to Palestine. 16-Q

"We honor and respect the conscience in all men, whether it takes them to prison or to the army." —CECIL E HINSHAW, 35, pres Wm Penn college, Oskaloosa, Ia, expressing school's attitude toward conscientious objectors. 17-Q

"It has taken me 7 yrs to make one hand do the work of two, but the trick can be done. I even play the piano. And not badly." —MERTON D COOKE, Portland, Ore, one-armed paperhanger, contending occupation doesn't keep him as busy as some jesters would have us believe. 18-Q

"We are not going to ask the American people to pay tribute to a legalized black mkt." —PAUL PORTER, price administrator, announcing establishment of controls which, it is hoped, will assure better distribution of meat at ceiling prices. 19-Q

"When a girl realizes she has a gorgeous figure, she figures she doesn't have to fool around with higher figures." —BILLY ROSE, N Y showman, asserting that, with few exceptions, beautiful girls don't go to college. (Conviction gained from acting as judge in many collegiate beauty contests.) 20-Q

"The situation in bearded ladies is acute. I get dozens of applications from so-called bearded ladies, but as soon as I arrange an interview I discover they don't even have a mustache." —FRED SMYTHE, boss of the sideshow of the Ringling Brother's-Barnum and Baily circus. 21-Q

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"You can't go on being a fool forever."—BARBARA HUTTON, Woolworth heiress, who recently shed her 3rd husband, CARY GRANT, announcing that she would not remarry. 22-Q

" " " 80% of the population is addicted to opium."—AHMED QAVAM, Premier of Iran, issuing proclamation forbidding planting of opium bearing poppies in Iran. 23-Q

" " " I'm going to get by hereafter on my ability."—MARIE McDONALD, movie actress known as "The Body," announcing her intention of dropping the nickname. 24-Q

" " " He told me he was going to Canada, but I had no idea he meant it."—Mrs HARVEY FINCH, Detroit, whose 6-yr-old son, JERRY, borrowed tricycle, set off for the Canadian border, progressed 8 mi in 8 hrs before being picked up by police. 25-Q

" " " In my time—in my 4 yrs (as mayor)—they are not going to organize in N Y, and I don't care who likes it."—WILLIAM O'Dwyer, mayor of N Y, declaring personal war against threatened revival of "slaughter syndicate" in N Y. 26-Q

" " " Already the dollar sign has been removed from college education for one group—the ret'g veteran. Father's financial competence is one college pre-requisite we could do without."—Dr HELEN C WHITE, pres, American Ass'n of Univ Women. 27-Q

" " " We are either American or un-American."—Att'y Gen'l TOM CLARK, calling on CIO-PAC to disown any "radical and un-American elements in its ranks." Said CLARK: "No such alternatives as fascism and communism can exist under our form of govt." 28-Q

" " " Having been a married woman, it's going to be pretty tough running around with junior high school kids."—LENA LINDSEY, 14, returning to school in Memphis, Tenn, after recent divorce from sailor, following 2-yr marriage. 29-Q

" " " Chaplain's office—Saint Peter speaking."—Pvt SAINT L PETER, of Omak, Wash, ans'g phone in chaplain's office at Buckley Field, Colorado. 30-Q

" " " Not so sorry to leave. Japan safer. No chance of having a war there."—Japanese in N China, expressing philosophical view held by large number Nips in area slated for forced ret'n to motherland. 31-Q

" " " We can't believe things will remain this bad."—Sign pointing up shirtless mannequin with barrel suspended from the shoulders, in a clothing store window. 32-Q

" " " When you live in one room, you can reach for everything. As soon as a man lives in more than one room, he disintegrates."—PHILLIP YORDAN, Hollywood playwright, answering columnist SHEILAH GRAHAM's question: "Why do you live in one room?" (YORDAN's income will top \$1 million this yr!) 33-Q

" " " The guts have been cut out of this bill."—Mrs HELEN MANKIN, newly-elected Ga Rep, alluding to drastically altered draft bill as it neared formal passage by House. 34-Q

" " " There's only one remedy. Shave often."—Dr R J OESTERLING, prof textile chemistry, State College, Pa, suggesting frequent removal of tough whiskers will do much to ease wear and tear on those last white shirts. 35-Q

" " " Five yrs is enough for any power to make enough atomic bombs to wipe out the world. The atomic bomb has removed all possibility of security."—J ANTON de HAAS, prof internat'l relations, Harvard Univ. 36-Q

" " " Butter is still in jail so far as price is concerned. Farmers can make more money selling their milk and cream for cheese and ice cream, or selling their cows for beef."—D K HOWE, pres American Butter Institute, warning butter shortage will grow worse this summer, become acute this fall and winter. 37-Q

" " " The 1946 coed is about as demure as a black lace nightie."—"An Iowa collegian," quoted by HARLAN MILLER, *Des Moines Register*. 38-Q

" " " It's fantastic. You wonder how any one can say a thing like that."—Dr BRUCE B ROBINSON, director child guidance, Newark N J public schools, ans'g assertion of GRACE R

LEWIS, of Nat'l Ass'n of Women Lawyers, that "No man can handle a child as well as a woman." Dr ROBINSON slyly added that it's the male principal who keeps school kids in line. 39-Q

" " " This is a most remarkable statement indeed, since Americans landed there less than 8 mo's ago."—KENNETH C ROYALL, Undersec'y of War, commenting on statement of newspaper columnist that "There are now 14,000 children in Japan born of GI fathers." 40-Q

" " " There are millions who hate us for our victory, who will fan any flame that starts up."—ROBERT S PATTERSON, Sec'y of War. 41-Q

" " " Mom's boy in the war has been a good fighter but a poor ambassador."—Dr BOYLSTON GREEN, new pres, Emerson College. 42-Q

" " " I've prayed I'd get to see a Security Council session, because every kid in America wonders what goes here, and I want to tell them about it."—FRANK SINATRA. 43-Q

" " " Being a judge you also understand the vehicle code; therefore, I give you the regular \$2 fine—plus \$1 because you should know better."—BERT WOODWARD, Glendale, Calif, Justice of the Peace, passing judgment on traffic court Judge CHAS R DYER. 44-Q

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## COLUMNIST'S COLUMN

### The Things of the Spirit

LOUIS BROMFIELD

In the modern industrial-mechanical world, a good many of us come to forget the things of the spirit—mysticism, religious instincts, the aspirations which have led Man out of the steaming ooze, and have substituted for them a worship of industry and mechanics all the way from plumbing and carburetors to the atomic bomb. A good many millions of people are beginning to understand that these things are not enough—that they are arid and empty substitutes either for the things of the spirit or for the goals of civilization itself. . .

We are beginning slowly and painfully to learn the hard way that none of these things contribute anything to the richness of life or towards man's capacity to survive disaster and misfortune. They are only of value and importance when they are the servants of man and free him from the servitude of time so that he may have more hrs for work and reflection. . . There is no virtue in the automobile if it gives a man or woman a couple of extra hrs a day which he puts to no good use, either for his own development or for the betterment of mankind and the advancement of civilization . . .

More and more millions of people are coming to look for something better than our modern industrial mechanical world has been able to offer them. There is such a thing—and it is as tangible as a carburetor or a blast furnace—as one's relation to the universe, to nature and to God. Without it, man leads a miserable and barren existence or is destroyed altogether. The hunger for it is one of the strongest instincts of the animal who talks and walks on two legs. —Abridged from syndicated col.

### ACTION—1

Move upon a man's mind and you will produce an opinion; move upon his emotions and you will produce action. — *Christian Advocate*.

### ATOMIC AGE—2

It still remains to be seen whether or not the new atom bomb around us can destroy the old Adam within us—whether or not human nature can assimilate and adapt itself to the age of alchemy and its implications, and man still survive not merely as a species but as a spirit. — **VIRGIL JORDAN**, *Manifesto For The Atomic Age*. (Rutgers)

### BIBLE—3

During Queen Victoria's reign, a prince from India sent her a letter asking her the secret of England's glory. In reply, the good Queen sent him a Bible, on the fly-leaf of which she had written: "This book is the secret of England's glory." The same is more strikingly true of America. The early discoveries and explorations of this continent were made for the most part by men whose dominating motive was the dissemination of the religion of the Bible.—Pres **DANIEL J. MARSH**, Boston Univ.

### CONSERVATION—4

One tree can make a million matches—One match can destroy a million trees.—*Cross Tie Bulletin*.

### COURTESY—5

A polite man today is one who offers a lady a seat when he gets off the bus.—*Banking*.

### DIRECTNESS—6

There is the story of the war hero who, when decorated for his record in picking off an estimated 35 Japs with a non-automatic rifle one afternoon, was asked for the secret of such marksmanship. He gave it in 2 words — "Don't wobble!"—*R & R Magazine*.

### EDUCATION—7

In the Secretariat of Education they tell a ludicrous anecdote of how a well-dressed, middle-aged Mexican woman came pompously into the Office of Alphabetization one day and demanded that they dispatch some one, the police, if necessary, to locate the girl she had been teaching. It seems the ungrateful little wench had disappeared. . . after she had almost learned to read and write.

"And if I don't get her back to finish with her," lamented the woman, "I shall have wasted 2 whole mo's!"—**AUDREY A. GEORGI**, "Mexico's ABC Crusade," *Forum*, 3-46.

### FAITH—8

A farmer plows his field, knowing that after Spring come the summer days of growth and the autumn days of harvest. . . There is belief in these matters, and faith.

And there is the further faith that comes from knowing that rain knows no politics and the sun has no creed, that no seed inquires the race or religion of its planter before it sprouts. Man's internecine quarrels have never yet delayed a Spring; no cartel ever monopolized the soil's fertility.—**HAL BORLAND**, "April Magic," *This Wk*, 4-7-46.

### FINANCE—9

Hugh Johnson, at one time Bernard Baruch's statistician, once said (of the stock mkt): "If you're ready and able to give up everything else—to study the whole history and background of the mkt and all the principal companies whose stocks are on the board as carefully as a medical student studies anatomy, to glue your nose to the tape at the opening of every day of the yr and never take it up until night—if you can do that, and, in addition, if you have the cool nerves of a clairvoyant, and the courage, you have a Chinaman's chance." — **JOSEPH MINDELL**, "Guide Post to Wall St: Introduction to the Stock Mkt," *Forbes*, 4-15-'46.

### GOD—and Man—10

I protest this constant phrase, "finding God." I have never heard that He was lost. Let us speak not of "finding" but of "being aware." God is playing no game of hide-and-seek. It is not his hiddenness; it is our blindness.—**PAUL SCHERER**, *Event in Eternity*. (Harper)

### GOSSIP—11

Advice to loose talkers: Build a better mouth trap.—*Link*.

### HONESTY—12

In Waller, Tex is a retail store where customers wait on themselves, and set their own prices. There are no prices on the merchandise—merely a tag on every item showing what that particular article cost the store. The customer selects

*Quote*

an article, wraps it himself, and pays whatever he thinks the owner's profit should be. The store has been operating at a profit for 23 yrs.—KEITH MONROE, "You, Too, Can Be a Showman," *Nation's Business*, 4-46.

**They DO say . . .**

With May issue, *Esquire* breaks precedent, publishes 1st article "solely over a feminine name." The author, CYNTHIA HARRIS, an over-indulged wife, pleads for HUMPHREY BOGART treatment. . . . *The Home Garden* for April, speaking editorially, points out that big, unwieldy Dep't of Agriculture missed opportunity to exploit home gardens thru spring issues of mass circulation mags. Their plea: give gardeners a Dep't of Horticulture, devoted to their interests. . . . Increase in drunken drivers who alibi, "All I had was a couple o' beers" is getting goat of Indiana Brewers Ass'n. Their response: advertising campaign built around theme, "Perjured testimony hurts the good name of beer." . . . Good old road map is coming back! Big oil co's will have 80 million o' em available at filling stations by Memorial Day. . . . *PILLSBURY* spring adv will feature recipes for home breadmaking.

**HOSPITALITY—13**

If the guests in a home were selected as carefully as its decoration and arrangement, the value of hospitality would rise like mercury in the sunshine—and so would its enjoyment. — SOPHIE KERR, "Hospitality," *Today's Woman*, 4-46.

**INGENUITY—14**

They are telling of an enterprising veteran who started a new business in the northwest by purchasing all the surplus flamethrowers he could lay hands on.

What did he do with them? Why he sold them to Duluth householders to clear the snow from sidewalks and drives. They melted those high drifts in no time at all, saving hrs of shoveling.

**LIFE—Spiritual—15**

We must rediscover a purpose, a direction, in our living. We must allow our—forgive the word—souls to catch up with the things

our hands and brains have accomplished—JAS RAMSEY ULLMAN, *The White Tower*. (Lippincott)

**MUSIC—Appreciation—16**

It seems there was a man who had heard the now famous Tchaikowsky Piano Concerto in several of its sixteen jazz versions (all the way from *Tonight We Love to Boogie de Concerto*), and he finally discovered a record of the original composition, with Toscanini conducting the orchestra and Horowitz at the piano. (His) enthusiastic comment was, "That's the best arrangement of that piece I ever heard!" — SIGMUND SPAETH, *At Home With Music*. (Doubleday)

**NATIONALISM—17**

A nation has been cynically but not ineptly defined as a society united by a common error as to its origin and a common aversion to its neighbors.—A S HADDON and JULIAN HUXLEY, *We Europeans*.

**OPINION—18**

In a country church, the story goes, there was a quarrel over a new organ. Somebody asked an elderly man of strong convictions how he felt about the issue.

"I have not yet made up my mind," said the deacon. "But when I do, I shall be very bitter!" — CLYDE R MILLER, *The Process of Persuasion*. (Crown)

**PREACHING—19**

A young grandson visited (the preacher) one recent Sunday. As they walked home from church, Billy said, "You know somepin', Gran'dad? You're the best preacher in the whole world. Your sermons are jus' right!"

"Is that so, Bill?"

"Yep," said Bill. "I like 'em. They're jus' right . . . They're jus' ezactly 3 funny books long!" — ALYENE PORTER, *Papa Was a Preacher*. (Abingdon-Cokesbury)

**PROGRESS—20**

Hollywood reports a new gangster movie in which the mob travels around in a rocket ship and keeps in touch with The Brain via radar. The time is coming when the old-time gangsters who bumped each other off with machine guns are going to seem as out-of-date as hoop skirts. "Listen, Bud," tomorrow's mobsmen will snarl, "don't muscle in or you'll get disintegrated." — *Parade*.



The fantastic demand for anything on wheels is tempting auto dealers to indulge in all manner of sharp practices, some of which obviously violate OPA regulations.

When the OPA some time ago placed ceiling prices on used cars, these vehicles of value virtually disappeared from dealer stocks. The man with a used car to dispose of peddled it himself, readily realizing the full ceiling price, and in many cases a substantial premium thru black mkt operations. Result is that dealers are hungry for good used cars. And now that a few new autos are coming thru, these are employed as "trading stock" to secure used vehicles.

Customer who wants new car, has no old one to trade, is often mercilessly pressured. Some dealers sell used car to customer with understanding he will trade it back on new one at less than sale price. In effect, of course, dealer gets more than ceiling price for new car, often selling same used car half-a-doz times. Of course it's illegal, but dealers excuse practice by pointing out their margin on new cars has been cut from 24% to 16½%; if they lose used-car sales their profits are cut even more.

Practice of allowing customer substantially less than "reasonable value" for his used car, as provided in MPR 594, is now quite general with dealers. Some offer ceiling price for used car and tell customer his name will go on waiting list for new one. If he wants car quickly, he must sell the one he has at discount. Of course customer protests—and the practice is wholly illegal—but in the end he must submit, or wait indefinitely for a car.

Auto trade ass'ns refuse to police their ranks, taking stand that OPA has driven legitimate dealer to such practices, "what with black mkt chiselers operating on all sides."



**AUTOMOBILES:** One hundred miles on a gal of gas was obtained in recent experiment with new motor car engine developed on Pacific Coast. (*Grit*)

**HEATING & VENTILATING:** A new development in room heating is the radiant baseboard: a hollow, cast-iron unit of approx same size and appearance as usual wooden baseboard, which it replaces on one or more sides of room. Painted to match room trim. Sends heat rays straight out into room at ankle height. Equally adaptable for modernization and new construction. Now under test at Univ of Ill. (*Springfield (Mass) Republican*)

**INVENTIONS:** New transparent umbrella has windshield wiper that works on a battery. (*Parade*)

**LIGHTING:** New radium night glowing spotter button, *Radi-Glo*, contains genuine radium ( $\frac{1}{4}$  microgram), does not need recharging. May be used as safety device, spotter for light switches, telephones, stairways. (*Lustrolite Cleveland Corp'n*)

**PEST CONTROL:** New DDT paper, mfgd by Central States Paper & Bag Co, N Y, for use under rugs, wrapping articles for storage. "Pro-Tec-Tor" paper is pkg'd in sheets 36 x 48 in's, 8 sheets to roll, retails 69¢. Said to be effective from 5 to 8 mo's. (*Dep't Store Economist*)

**MEDICINE:** Biggest forward step in treatment of allergies is comparatively recent discovery that *histamine*, contained in bodily tissue and liberated in nerve endings, is cause of allergic reactions — hay fever, asthma, etc. While *histamine* is life essential, too much liberated without counteracting influence results in allergic symptoms. New drug, *Benadryl* holds considerable promise of counteracting such symptoms. (*Parke, Davis & Co*)

*Quote*

#### RELIGION—21

We cannot meet needs by repeating creeds.—*Religious Telescope*.

#### RELIGION—Discrimination—22

"This is an open and shut case, Judge," said the tenant in his own behalf. "She just doesn't agree with my religious beliefs."

The Judge was shocked. "My good lady," he admonished sternly, "you can't evict a man just because you are of different faiths. You are living in a democracy, and one of the cornerstones of democracy is tolerance."

"It wasn't so much that I objected to his beliefs, Your Honor," explained the landlady. "When I got mad was when he wanted to sacrifice a black bull to Jupiter—on my new rug." —*San Francisco Chronicle*.

#### RESEARCH—23

We know of one enterprising . . . head of a successful, growing co, who was asked, "How do you happen to stumble on all these new products?" Pointing to the Research Bldg across the way, he replied, "Well, you see we maintain a 'Stumbling Dep't' especially for that purpose." —*Research Viewpoint*, quoted in *Adv & Selling*.

#### SAFETY—Safe Driving—24

If there had been drunken driving in the days of the Ten Commandments, there would have been 11 Commandments.—RAY D EVERSON, *Farmer's Guide*.

#### SALESMANSHIP—25

A bootblack was working among the Broadway theatre crowds wending their way home from Saturday night performances. He was announcing: "Get your shine! Get your shine!" Farther down the street was the expert, just a couple of yrs younger: "Get your Sunday shine here! Get your Sunday shine here!" That "Sunday shine" seemed to be a reminder which motivated many passers-by to stop.—SOLOMON HUBER, *Insurance Salesman*.

#### SELF-CONFIDENCE—26

A British neurologist made 3 tests of the strength of 3 men. In the 1st test, the average grip of the three was 101 lbs.

In the second test, made under hypnosis, with the experimenter telling the men they were weak and lacked any power to speak of, the average grip was 29 lbs.

In the third test, also given un-

der hypnosis, but with the experimenter this time impressing the men with the fact of their *superior* strength, the average grip of the three was 142 lbs.

The men only used 101 out of 142 parts of their potential strength. The maximum was attained when they *believed* in their own power. —*Your Life*.

#### SPEECH—Speaking—27

While riding the circuit in Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, staying over in a rural community, one Sunday, went to hear a circuit-riding preacher, a man of high-flown language and enthusiasm. Asked by his host, later, what the prairie lawyer thought of the lively elder, Lincoln replied:

"Well, now, if the good brother would only pluck a few feathers from the wing of his imagination and stick them in the tail of good judgment, he would make quite a good speaker." —PHILLIP J CLEVELAND, *Pulpit Digest*.

#### TRAVEL—28

In the days when I was growing up . . . a great many people only traveled to see the things other people had seen and to be able to talk about the things other people talked about—in short, in order to give the impression of being what was known as "cultured."

I remember quite well a lady who lived all her life in N Y City and ultimately in Europe. Only a few yrs ago, on hearing that one of her relatives had gone to live in Fla, she remarked with horror: "I fear I shall never see her again. I wonder what kind of place Fla is. Could one have a garden or is it all sand?" —MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT, "Why I Travel," *Holiday*, 4-46.

#### VIEWPOINT—29

The 7-yr-old scion of a Murray Hill family goes to a school in which he is urged to express himself by painting, sawing, yelling, or whatever. . . He surprised his parents, one day lately, by asking whether he might be transferred to the school his friend Billy goes to—just the kind of stuffy, old-fashioned school his parents had been careful to avoid. "I know its wonderful over there," he said. "They got desks." —*New Yorker*.

#### WORRY—30

Worry does not empty the day of its trouble, but only of its strength. —*Advertiser's Digest*.

*Quote*

## Shaggy Doggerel

Couple of yrs ago, BENNETT CERF, the Random raconteur, submitted to editors of Town & Country a collection of what he termed "shaggy dog" stories—"those baffling anecdotes in which animals have voices, people have aberrations, and literal-minded auditors have conniption fits." The collection was later reprinted as a chapter in CERF's best-selling Try and Stop Me. So popular was the feature that an encore was clearly indicated. So Mr CERF, never loth to fill an editorial assignment, obliges with another instalment in the May issue of Town & Country. Selections presented here are from both groups.

A mother elephant was browsing in the jungle shade when her young offspring (weight: 1840) suddenly pressed his head against a redwood tree, and stretched one hind leg straight out behind him. "Look, mom," he trumpeted, "I'm a book-end!"

" "

A saloonkeeper had just unlocked his premises for the day's business when a pink elephant and a purple rhinoceros mooched up to the bar. "I'm sorry, boys," said the bartender, "he hasn't come in yet."

" "

Farmer Squibbs was ploughing the farthest corner of his field when a neighbor came running to call, "Quick, Henry! Your wife's having a fit." Squibbs dropped everything and ran a mile to his house, only to find his wife had recovered fully and was placidly cooking dinner.

A wk later he was summoned again. This time, his wife, once more recovered, was darning stockings in the parlor.

A third time the neighbor called for Farmer Squibbs. This time he found his wife out cold on the kitchen floor. He felt her pulse and her heart. Neither stirred. He held a mirror before her mouth. There was no trace of moisture.

Farmer Squibbs straightened himself and mopped his forehead. "Well," he declared, "this is more like it."

" "

A very shy young man sat next to a glamorous debutante at a dinner party. In the middle of the main course he seized a bowl of succotash and poured it over the debutante's coiffure. The young lady rose indignantly. "How dare you?" she blazed, plucking corn and beans from her hair. "How dare you throw succotash at me?" The

The Original  
"Shaggy Dog" Story

A Kansas City barfly picked up a yr-old copy of the *London Times*, and saw a personal ad offering a 10-lb reward for the ret'n of a very shaggy dog to its owner in Bishop's Bowes, Essex. Ten min later he stumbled over the shaggiest darn pup you ever saw. A man of decision, he promptly bundled the canine under his arm, took the 20th Century to N Y, the *Queen Mary* to Southampton, and a limousine to Bishop's Bowes, where he confidently rang the bell. "You lost a shaggy dog, madam," he reminded the lady who ans'd the summons "Would this be it?" "Good heavens, no," she snapped. "It wasn't *that* shaggy"—and slammed the door.

young man blanched. "Good heavens," he stammered. "Was that succotash? I thought it was spinach!"

" "

A man's ear was bleeding like a stuck pig. "I bit myself," he explained. "That's impossible," said the doctor. "How can a man bite himself in the ear?" The man said, "I was standing on a chair."

" "

For 27 consecutive days the customer had appeared at the bar with a carrot tucked behind his ear. On the 28th day the routine was varied: a banana replaced the carrot. The bartender could stand the suspense no longer: Leaning over the counter, he inquired: "What's the idea of that banana behind your ear, fellah?"

"Oh," explained the customer, "I couldn't find no carrot today."

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## Canticle to the Land

WM G LAW

What does the land know of the fretful impatience of men?

The land lies quiet; the mother of all life, yet quiet as if life and time had no meaning; quiet beneath the driving clouds, the wandering winds, the endless procession of the seasons, quiet beneath the hand of God.

The land lies quiet with its allies, the sun, wind and rain; lying patient and empty beneath the sky, mantled with snow; then warming under the sun, clothing itself with green, welcoming the birds, feeling the corn leap on the warm nights; then clothed with color such as men cannot contrive. . . and then relapsing into the quiet, the waiting, of winter. . .

And when man comes to love the land and share its bounty, he and the land can labor together, and the hand of God helps them; for the land loves hearthstones and yields abundance; and when man has gone, as man must always go, no scars remain.

But when man comes to fret and misuse the land, to strip away the fertility gained of eons under the slow rake of time, then the land turns her back upon him, and he slinks away leaving only shame and desolation.

And when man comes in bitterness and hate to tear great wounds in the yielding earth, and to poison those wounds with steel and cordite, then the land feels the endless sorrow of God, and hastens to wash away the wounds with cooling rain, and covers them with the soft green of the grass, and receives into her arms the bodies of the sons of men, and again lies quiet with her allies, the sun, wind, and rain. . .

For what does the land know of the fretful impatience of men?  
—The Pastor, 4-'46.

*Quote*

A girl press agent indignantly reported this story to producer Lamar Trott: At the gala opening of *God Is My Co-Pilot* in San Francisco, she tried hard to convince the city editor of a local paper that the event should be covered by a photographer. The stars of the picture as well as other celebrities would be present, she insisted.

Finally, the city editor told her: "I'll send a photographer if you can promise to have the 'Co-Pilot' available for pictures." —ANDREW B HECHT, *Photoplay*.

" "

The banquet had proved very unsatisfactory. The committee in charge were hopeful as the guest of honor was introduced by the toastmaster.

"Gentlemen," said he in a stentorian voice, "we have with us tonight Prof Haxworth, who will tell us some of his biggest and best after dinner stories."

Amid rousing applause, Prof Haxworth arose. "Mr Toastmaster and gentlemen," said he, "to begin with my biggest story, let me tell you how thoroughly I have enjoyed your banquet." —*Watchman-Examiner*.

" "

"Yes," said the old man. "I have had some terrible disappointments but none stands out over the yrs like the one that came to me when I was a boy."

"And what was it?"

"When I was a boy I crawled under a tent to see a circus and discovered it was a revival meeting." —*Fraternal Monitor*.

#### Speaking of Speakers . . .

JOHN ANDREW HOLMES

One who appears before an audience without preparation should disappear without delay.

" "

It is more expedient for a speaker to combat ideas than to antagonize phrases.

" "

An audience that lends its ears to a bore is lucky to get even its principal back.

" "

Some ingenious Yankee should invent an automatic chairman with knees instantly folding up whenever it says, "Our speaker needs no introduction."

## GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

### I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

BARBARA STANWICK

My young son, Dion, has been brought up to speak the truth (I hope) even when it cramps the product of a vivid imagination.

You can imagine my surprise when, not so long ago, I overheard him telling a boy friend: "You know, it's really swell lying in bed in the morning and ringing for my valet."

The friend was properly impressed. "Gosh!" he said in awed tones, "D'ya mean you have a valet?"

"Well, uh, no," confessed Dion. "But," he added brightly, "I have the bell!"

Washington Dodge, the broker, reports that a client of his who recently bought some Childs restaurant bonds, created quite a stir in the rural telegraph office where he chanced to receive this sinister message: "Child executed yesterday. Remit funds by noon tomorrow."

" "

Mexican politicians fondly recount the story of the American tourist who hired a taxi for a sight-seeing tour of the capital. As the cab reached the Nat'l Palace the tourist asked how long it had taken to build it. "Three hundred yrs," the driver said. "Why we could build that palace in 3 mo's," the tourist commented . . .

The driver kept quiet until the tourist pointed at posters reading "Aleman" pasted on walls of buildings. The driver explained it was the name of a Presidential candidate. "How long does it take you to count the votes," the tourist asked. "A week."

"Well, we know the results of any election the same day," the tourist said.

"You've got nothing on us," the driver replied. "We know them 1 yr in advance!" — *N Y Times Magazine*.

... King Gustav, 87-yr-old tennis whiz of Sweden... was interrupted in a doubles game at Bastad. A 6-yr-old youngster had walked out on the court to request the King's autograph.

"But, my boy, I thought I gave you my autograph yesterday."

"You did, Your Majesty," replied the child, "but I traded it for a lollipop."

"Well, all right," His Majesty replied, "I'll sign another autograph. But I am *not* going to keep you in lollipops all summer!" — LESLIE LIEBER, "Private Lives," *This Wk*, 4-7-'46.

